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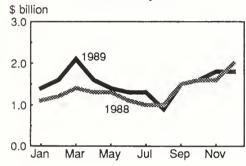
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U.S. Agricultural Trade Update

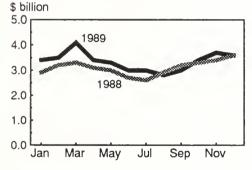
Economic Research Service U.S. Department of Agriculture

February 20, 1990

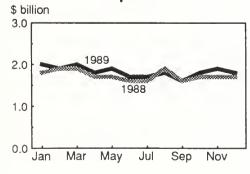




Exports



Imports



December Trade Surplus Up Slightly - The December agricultural trade surplus increased \$4 million from the previous month to more than \$1.8 billion. Exports remained strong at \$3.6 billion, but dropped \$94 million below November's level. Imports fell to less than \$1.8 billion. The cumulative trade surplus for calendar 1989 totaled \$18.2 billion, \$2.1 billion ahead of a year ago and the biggest since 1984.

Exports Lower In December - U.S. agricultural exports slid 3 percent from the previous month to \$3.6 billion. Unusually cold weather contributed to the decline. Decreases in corn, soybeans, meat, rice, fruits, nuts, and tobacco more than offset increases in wheat, animal feeds, soybean meal, cotton, vegetable oils, barley, and cattle hides.

Calendar 1989 Exports Reached \$40 Billion, 8 percent above the previous year and the highest annual total since the record \$43.3 billion shipped in 1981. This marks the third consecutive year-to-year increase since exports bottomed-out at \$26.2 billion in 1986--the low point for the 1980's.

Corn exports during December remained strong at 6.6 million tons valued at \$741 million. Although volume retreated 895,000 tons from November, it was still the second largest monthly figure on record. Shipments to the Soviet Union reached 3 million tons, compared with 3.4 million tons the previous month. Other major corn markets during December were Japan (937,000 tons), Taiwan (796,000 tons), South Korea (497,000 tons), and Mexico (493,000 tons). Calendar 1989 corn exports rose sharply to 56.5 million tons valued at \$6.6 billion. Record Soviet purchases accounted for one-third of the total or 18.6 million tons.

Soybean exports of 1.8 million tons decreased 13 percent from the previous month and slightly below December 1988. The EC (990,000 tons) remained the largest market followed by Japan (421,000 tons), and Taiwan (224,000). Shipments to the

USSR and Mexico dropped sharply. Soybean exports in calendar 1989 were 15.1 million tons, the lowest annual total since 1975. The EC accounted for 43 percent or 6.4 million

Wheat exports of 2.2 million tons gained 15 percent in December. The export pace, however, remained sluggish for the third month in a row. Pakistan (291,000 tons) was the largest market followed by China (286,000 tons), Japan (272,000 tons), and Egypt (271,000 tons). After averaging nearly 10 million tons per quarter during January-September 1989, wheat exports totaled 6.5 million in the last quarter.

Cotton exports moved 31 percent higher in December to 149,000 tons valued at \$250 million. Japan (42,000 tons), Korea (29,000 tons), the EC (27,000 tons), and Indonesia (10,000 tons) were the largest markets. Calendar 1989 exports of 1.5 million tons (valued at \$2.2 billion) totaled the highest since 1980.

Agricultural Imports fell 5 percent in December to \$1.8 billion. Declines in coffee, sugar, and other commodities more than offset increases for live animals, fruits and vegetables, meat, and tobacco. Imports in 1989 set a record of \$21.8 billion, \$306 million above the previous high in 1986. Coffee imports for the year were 1.2 million tons valued at \$2.4 billion (table 6). (Stéve Milmoe, 202-786-1822)

Record Export Credit Guarantees in FY 1989 - Credit guarantee approvals increased 15 percent in fiscal 1989 to \$5.2 billion, the highest level reached under the GSM-102 and GSM-103 programs. This indicates that exports under these programs will be up over fiscal 1988 levels as well. Wheat and flour, feed grains, oilseeds, and protein meal were the commodity groups with the greatest coverage. Mexico, Iraq, Algeria, and Korea were the primary destinations under the credit guarantee programs (table 4). (Ann Fleming, 202-786-1821)

Monthly supplement to Foreign Agricultural Trade of the United States Approved by the World Agricultural Outlook Board

			-December			Dece		
Commodity group and unit	Thousand	1989	\$ Thous	\$ Thousands		Thousand units		1989
Fruits - dried (MT) Raisins - dried (MT) Prumes - dried (MT) Other dried fruits (MT) Fruits - canned ex juice (MT) Fruits - froz ex juice (MT) Other fruits - prep or pres (MT) Fruit juices incl froz (HL) Other fruit juices (HL) Wine (HL) Wine (HL) Nuts & prep (MT) Almonds (shelled basis) (MT) Peanuts, shelled or prep (MT) Walnuts, shelled or prep (MT) Walnuts, shelled or unshelled (MT) Pecans, shelled or unshelled (MT) Other nuts, shelled or prep (MT) Vegetables & prep (NA) Vegetables & fr (MT) Calliflower - fresh (MT) Calliflower - fresh (MT) Calliflower - fresh (MT) Other fresh vegetables (MT) Vegetables - froz (MT) Conn, sweet, frozen (MT) Potatoes - fresh (MT) Other fresh vegetables (MT) Vegetables - froz (MT) Corn, sweet, frozen (MT) Potatoes - frozen (MT) Potatoes - frozen (MT) Dried beans (MT) Dried beans (MT) Dried beans (MT) Dried lentils (MT) Hops, incl hop ext (MT) Other oilcake & meal (MT) Other oilcake	168 99 59 10 75 30 5,732 26,732 27,556 3,176 431 184 149 74 22 	165 933 630 752 49 82 49 158 24 491 158 267 47 17 16 93 1555 1880 1679 153 1555 1659 153 1659 17 21,750 15,373 15,373 15,373 15,373 15,373 15,373 15,373 15,373 15,373 15,373 15,373 15,373 16,473 17,	269,333 154,554 94,772 200,648 27,870 27,870 27,870 27,870 27,870 27,870 27,870 27,870 27,870 27,870 27,870 27,870 27,870 27,870 27,455 883,866 587,129 103,442 8,465 63,7725 1313,842 130,743 140,913 140,913 17,11	267, 990 150, 010 101, 189 16, 219 31, 550 58, 458 268, 404 137, 831 130, 573 93, 481 845, 957 491, 873 105, 668 1, 604, 075 329, 493 117, 898 49, 084 224, 330 51, 183 125, 084 17, 898 49, 084 224, 330 51, 183 125, 084 111, 183 125, 084 111, 183 125, 084 140, 279 127, 701 128, 189 140, 622 111, 183 125 125 125 125 125 125 125 125 125 125	150517733669742120602 667311365051427388061 555596582668647111	1486152245536588158746613330117664109377925514695512452431111,7721151880415111,77211518	1988 24, 4376 14, 3576 17, 22, 9694 17, 22, 9694 17, 2969 17, 29694 18, 4956 19, 2050 19, 2050 19, 2050 19, 2050 10, 2050 1	212,9355 4,9355 242,9355 1,523,77275 247,7795 247,7795 247,7795 247,7795 247,7795 247,7795 247,7795 247,7795 247,7795 247,7795 247,7795 247,7795 247,7795 247,

		January-	ary-December December			mber			
Commodity and unit	Thousand	units	Thousand	dollars	Tho	usand	units	Thousan	d dollars
]	1988	1989	1988	1989	198	8	1989	1988	1989
Total agricultural imports (NA) Noncompetitive agr. imports (NA) Bananas and plantains (MI) Coffee, including products (MT) Tea and mate' (MT) Spices (MT) Rubber & allied gums-crude (MT) Silk - raw (MT) Wool, unmanufactured-carpet (MT) Fibers, excluding cotton (MT) Essential oils (MT) Drugs - crude - natural (MT) Other noncompetitive imports (NA) Animals and animal products (NA) Animals and animal products (NA) Animals-live, exl. poultry (NO) Cattle - live (NO) Swine - live(NO) Swine - live(NO) Sheep - live (NO) Other live animals (NO) Meats & prods exc. poultry (MT) Beef and veal (MT) Beef & veal-fresh/frozen (MT) Beef & veal-fresh/frozen (MT) Pork (MT) Pork - fresh or frozen (MT) Pork prepared, preservd (MT) Mutton, goat, & lamb (MT) Variety meats-fresh/froz (MT) Other meats & products (NA) Poultry - live (NA) Poultry and products (NA) Poultry meat (MT) Eggs (NA) Feathers & downs - crude (MT) Butter & butterfat mixt (MT) Casein & mixtures (MT) Casein & mixtures (MT) Other dairy products (NA) Fats, oils, & greases (MT) Hides & skins, incl furs (NA) Sheep & lamb skins (MT) Oth hides & skins ex fur (NA) Furskins (NA) Wool-urmfg, apparel grades (MT) Sausage casings (MT) Bull semen (NA)	3,020 965 512 91 119 866 0 590 38 13 54 2,294 1,332 10 836 0 115 1,263 781 703 777 438 283 156 20 9 3 12 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15	1989 3,097 1,209 569 93 110 917 105 18 44 2,700 1,459 11 1,074 1422 14 1,111 709 639 70 346 226 120 21 13 3 19	1988 20, 950, 723 6, 263, 171 832, 282 2, 470, 179 1, 002, 773 129, 618 333, 798 1, 022, 557 46, 511 46, 224 23, 974 18, 118 14, 820, 376 5, 112 2, 720, 107 1, 679, 303 1, 487, 376 456, 846 477, 376 456, 846 39, 886 12, 122 20, 492 34, 820 96, 774 477, 376 456, 884 39, 886 12, 122 20, 492 34, 820 96, 774 11, 15, 194 61, 854 874, 734 13, 704 61, 755 19, 383 255, 594 42, 114 53, 985 259, 140 62, 713	21, 752, 208 6, 125, 211 870, 769 2, 432, 154 976, 627 139, 637 275, 472 957, 733 12, 760 58, 137 47, 144 218, 548 1, 040 15, 626, 118 823, 773 661, 932 54, 638 100, 733 5, 683 100, 733 5, 683 100, 733 5, 683 100, 733 7, 643 11, 642, 742 11, 643, 894 754, 043 3794, 266 3794, 266 3794, 2798 22, 111 19, 219 46, 412 135, 742 17, 849 76, 120 14, 223 27, 849 76, 120 14, 223 27, 849 76, 120 14, 813 380, 275 52, 822 13, 385 216, 119 37, 651 18, 037 246, 478 63, 683 3, 034	 	8 234553897501214	1989 249 103 377 962 01 723 363 270 88 32 93 635 56 7 25 10 2 11 16 6 1 0 1	1,670,145 491,913 64,880 170,645 87,875 26,412 92,8478 2,4615 19,391 1,178,139 68,996 57,293 5,269 135 164,430 777,451 74,479 322,1395,494 4,470 7,085 2,672 1,023 5,096 1,087 7,085 2,093 7,085 7,098 7,085 7,098 7,085 7,098 7,085 7,098 7,085 7,085 7,098 7,085	1,749,781 401,976 69,847 151,830 60,653 12,468 20,018 51,733 3,401 10,354 11,479 3,238 3,401 10,354 118,517 103,127 6,456 8,407 207 235,754 159,809 138,907 20,901 64,736 6,193 32,956 33,616 1,498 32,956 33,616 1,498 1,750 6,456 6,619 83,720 1,938 1,368 1,3780 1,780 32,956 33,616 1,498 4,037 1,078 5,017 10,671 1,938 1,369 4,687 29,689 4,037 1,050 16,775 2,900 4,406 22,211 3,331
Misc animal products (NA) Grains, products, & feeds (MT) Wheat, excluding seed (MT) Corn, unmilled (MT) Oats, unmilled (MT) Barley, unmilled (MT) Bisce (MT) Biscuits & wafers (MT) Pasta & noodles (MT) Other grains & preps (NA) Feeds & fodders ex oilcake (MT) Fruits & preparations (MT) Fruits - fresh or frozen (MT) Strawberries fresh o/froz (MT) Apples, fresh (MT) Citrus, fresh (MT) Grapes, fresh (MT) Mangoes (MT) Melons (MT) Pineapples (MT) Oth fruits - fresh o/froz (MT) Fruits - prep or pres (MT) Pineapples-canned or prep (MT) Other fruit juices (HL) Other fruit juices (HL) Nuts & preparations (MT) Brazil nuts (MT) Cashew nuts (MT) Chestnuts (MT) Coconut meat (MT) Filberts (MT) Macademia nuts (MT) Pistachio nuts (MT) Other nuts (MT) Other nuts (MT) Other nuts (MT)	35 338 82 167 481 253 228 15,644 11,015 135 9 39 44 44 3	25; 489 101 186 542 302 14,722 12,694 137 7 49 48 1 2 2	28,877 84,991 30,316 152,199 382,906 156,987 225,920 554,414 269,470 316,640 195,706 9,058 41,987 10,530 13,631 5,068 25,855	42, 428 127, 488 42, 866 148, 871 411, 879 173, 029 238, 850 443, 427 283, 677 343, 525 17, 748 211, 438 10, 359 38, 10, 474 21, 314 6, 547 36, 574	1,¢	23 6 13 49 23 23 5 37 6 1 2 1 3 1 4 1 0 0 3	1,988 146 233 1,837 1,988 14 15 00 04	6,688 2,282 11,104 37,847 14,314 23,533 60,746 29,178 28,387 14,867 2,953 14,867 2,957 1,821 1,345	7,029 3,200 10,058 36,423 13,151 23,242 46,209 23,242 29,642 2,049 13,187 1,281 3,977 110 783 1,680 6,576

Table 2--U.S. agricultural imports: Quantity and value by commodity, continued

	January-December			December				
Commodity and unit	Thousand	Thousand units Thousand dollars		Thousar	nd units	Thousand	dollars	
	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989	1988	1989
Potassium (MI) Nitrogen (MT) Phosphate (MT) Mixed & organic fertilizers(MI) Fish and shellfish(MI) Fish - fresh or prepared (MI) Shellfish (MI)	1,681 1,681 1,681 153 194 177 170 185 36 125 222 644 368 -73 49 51 166 133 444 	15 13	1,615,093 721,536 157,808 19,339 10,966 13,407 45,645 81,209 81,209 189,934 893,557 772,037 46,890 189,934 893,557 131,524 1113,624 27,0765 55,7770 81,467 221,001 45,469 189,934 1113,624 117,926 32,597 560,682 48,873 51,106 117,926 32,597 560,682 15,422 1,947,407 938,581 918,383 919,439 924,188 295,702 38,972 776,809 225,702 38,972 776,909 225,702 38,972 776,909 225,702 38,972 776,909 225,702 38,972 776,909 225,702 38,972 776,909 225,702 38,972 776,909 225,702 38,972 776,909 225,702 38,972 776,909 225,702 38,972 776,909 225,702 38,972 776,909 225,702 38,972 776,909 225,702 388,938 48,852 1,943,938 48,852 1,943,938 48,852 1,943,938 48,852 1,943,938 48,852 1,943,938 48,852 1,943,938 48,852 1,943,938 48,852 1,943,938 48,852 1,943,938 48,852 1,943,938 48,852 1,943,938 48,852 1,943,938 48,852 1,943,938 48,852 1,943,938 48,853,938 48,852 1,943,938 48,852	2,048,928 928,928 19,278 1229,928 19,278 111,863 90,257 94,642 14,491 94,642 14,491 95,642 14,639 110,948 76,830 239,023 1,066,054 137,516 26,106 33,029 161,075 245,511 498,478 955,974 180,834 180,843 180,843 180,843 180,843 180,843 180,843 180,843 180,843 180,843 180,843 180,843 180,843 180,843 180,843 180,843 180,943 181,853 183,934 183,934 183,934 184,633 185,756 185,7	0 1 0 0	182 211 38 37 212 123 141 25 125 127 30 10 92 48 28 181 166 163 103 28 103 47 111 166 163 104 106 117 110 110 110 110 110 110 110 110 110	142,779 61,068 3,130 1,431 7,201 1,431 7,201 1,431 7,201 9,331 2,473 1,476 3,475 3,475 3,476 3,476 1,727 48,731 1,727 48,731 1,727 48,731 1,727 48,731 1,727 48,731 1,727 48,731 1,727 48,731 1,727 48,731 1,727 48,731 1,727 48,731 1,727 48,731 1,727 48,731 1,727 48,731 1,727 48,731 1,727 48,731 1,727 48,731 1,727 48,731 1,727 1,666 90,887 7,005 91,448 160,472 13,603 23,305 14,666 175,666 175,768 160,473 111,769 150,833 151,769 151,830 153,335 153,769 151,769 151,888 101,316	175,833 92,926 13,653 12,653 13,653 13,653 13,867 13,867 14,757 64,088 10,460 22,987 14,329 91,736 12,987 14,329 11,860 22,987 14,329 11,860 22,987 14,339 11,860 22,987 14,339 11,860 22,987 14,933 11,860 22,987 14,933 11,860 22,188 24,188 25,188 21,771 26,631 27,736 26,316 27,933 35,840 28,840 2

Preliminary data. -- = Not available. Zeroes in quantity columns represent none or less than 500 units.

Table 3--U.S. agricultural trade summary (\$ Million)

Table 5--U.S. agricultural exports (\$ Million)

Item	Oct	Nov	Dec	CY to date	Chg. fm. prev. yr.
					Percent
Agricultural exports Imports (c.i.f.) Imports (Customs val.)	3,392 2,029 1,824	3,654 2,026 1,851	3,559 1,972 1,750	39,991 24,108 21,752	7.7 4.2 3.8
Trade Balance: Exports minus cif imports	1,363	1,628	1,587	15,884	13.5
Exports minus Customs valued imports	1,568	1,803	1,809	18,239	12.8

Preliminary data.

Table 4--Exports credit guarantees approved for principal commodity groups and countries, fiscal years 1988 and 1989. (\$ Million)

Commodity/Country	1987/88	1988/89	
Total 1/	4,504.3	5,195.3	
Wheat/flour	1,111.1	1,622.4	
Feed grains	901.3	881.8	
Oilseeds	577.5	434.9	
Protein meal	188.5	370.7	
Cotton	300.1	286.8	
Rice	290.0	275.1	
Vegetable oils	266.4	218.2	
Other	869.4	1,105.4	
Mexico	1,116.6	1,259.5	
Iraq	1,113.2	1,088.8	
Algeria	617.2	587.2	
Korea	539.3	550.9	
Egypt	197.3	349.8	
Venezuela	0.0	300.0	
Pakistan	145.4	156.2	
Turkey	34.2	130.4	
Morocco	155.0	123.4	
Other	586.1	649.1	

Includes GSM-102 and GSM-103 programs. Includes leather and forest products.

Commodity	Oc t	Nov	Dec		Change from
gro u p				date	prev. year
Total Live animals Meat & preps Dairy prod & eggs Animal fats Hides & skins Wheat Rice Corn Other feed grains Animal feeds Soybeans Vegetable oils Horticult. prods. Cotton & linters Tobacco, unmfg.	3,392 248 40 48 143 393 92 482 105 203 452 69 524 177 106	3,654 57 253 34 135 305 88 813 73 202 467 50 485 185	3,559 60 222 28 44 147 362 83 741 81 289 407 63 459 252 114	39,991 2,862 496 51,717 5,865 970 6,581 1,157 2,975 3,944 5,278 2,269 1,341	-28.1 -11.1 -6.1 19.9 20.3 30.6 36.0 -13.2 -19.8 -14.6

Preliminary data.

Table 6--U.S. agricultural imports (\$ Million, Customs value)

Commodity group	0ct	Nov	Dec	CY to date	Change from prev. year
Total Live animals Meat & preps. Dairy prod, eggs Grains & feeds Fruits & nuts Vegetables Vegetable oils Wine Malt beverages Coffee Cocoa Rubber, natural Sugar Tobacco, unmfg. Seeds, flowers	1,824 55 218 89 116 235 142 64 130 212 85 67 38 48 58	1,851 94 221 99 125 252 154 61 129 69 69 66 51 40 68	1,750 120 237 85 101 243 176 66 77 58 152 61 52 52	21,752 841 2,562 885 1,217 3,034 2,049 680 930 855 2,432 977 958 551 683	11.8 -6.25 -33.9 0.7 -26.4 -0.9 -7.05 -2.6 -6.3 -1.8

Preliminary data.

This report is available through USDA's Electronic Disseminated Information (EDI) Service two working days following release of the Commerce Department's monthly U.S. merchandise trade data. Call Russell T. Forte, Office of Information, 202-447-5505.

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